



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## Minutes 04/09/2012

### Arlington Cultural Council

#### Minutes of Monday, April 9, 2012 Meeting

Selectmen's Hearing Room, 2nd Floor Town Hall, 6:00 p.m.

Present: Margo Barrett, Eliza Burden, Kurt Fusaris, Becky Holmes-Farley, Stephanie Marlin-Curiel, Scott Samenfeld and Wendy Glaas

Visitor: Martha Sheehan

Absent: Karin Blum, Sharon Shaloo

Council members arrived at 5:00 p.m. to prepare for the grantee reception, "A Celebration of Arts and Culture," which commenced at 6:00 p.m. Council member Scott Samenfeld played background music and refreshments were served as guests circulated and looked at the table materials that grant recipients brought to display.

An initial welcome was given by Margaret Barrett and she introduced Massachusetts Cultural Commission Representative, Jennifer Atwood, and then, co-Chairs, Stephanie Marlin-Curiel and Eliza Burden thanked guests, acknowledged the attendance of representatives from various cultural groups and introduced Representative Ken Donnelly and Representative Sean Garballey, who each spoke in support of the arts. The 2012 grant recipients were then announced and received citations from the Massachusetts House of Representatives, arranged for by Representative Garballey. A short performance was given by Cantilena chorale group and photographs were taken by High School exchange student Jinghan Chen.

The official meeting was called to order following the conclusion of the grantee reception, "A Celebration of Arts and Culture," which took place from 6:00- 7:40 p.m. The Council members welcomed Martha Sheehan who arrived after meeting with the Selectmen regarding her pending appointment to the Arlington Cultural Council.

ITEM 1 March 12, 2012 Minutes were reviewed and APPROVED.

ITEM 2 Requests for Payment

- There is only one request for payment this month and it was received from Aine Minogue, 2011-13, following her performance at the Robbins Library on 2/22. She requested final payment of \$1,500. In addition to submitting her request, she generously provided each Council member with a copy of her CD, "CLOSE YOUR EYES, LOVE LULLABIES OF THE CELTIC LANDS."
- Eliza reported receipt of a note from Old Schwamb Mill, 2012-07 acknowledging the fact that they had been awarded a \$600.00 grant from ACC.

ITEM 3 Report on Outstanding 2011 Grants

2011-17 - Stephanie reported that the artist is not going to complete this project. The Sudanese Education Fund asked whether they could use the awarded monies (which were to have been for a diorama) to fund promotional efforts and/or the space rental fee for a different event they have scheduled for April 28th. Discussion ensued and the consensus was that funds that were awarded for one purpose could not be shifted over to fund a completely different project as that would subvert the grant evaluation process. A MOTION was made to rescind the grant monies of \$550.00 and this PASSED with 6 votes in the affirmative and one abstention (Kurt Fusaris)

#### ITEM 4 Grantee Reception

The Council thought the reception was well received and well attended. Estimates were that there were approximately 50 people in attendance (this estimate includes members of Cantilena). Eliza mentioned that Karin had also sent invitations to various cultural organizations this year and that doing this, and listing them in the program, worked well. Representative Garballey, on his own initiative, provided wonderful citations for delivery to the grant recipients. It was agreed that these were a special addition for which we were grateful. Margaret suggested that thank you letters for the attendance of our Representatives would be appropriate.

#### ITEM 5 Grant Cycle Business -publicity

- Margaret reserved a table at the Robbins Library for our use in publicizing grant opportunities this coming September. Note: She needed to reserve this approximately one year in advance. A brief discussion was had about revisiting our Annual Calendar Monthly to-do list and updating it with reminders such as to make this reservation. Becky offered to prepare an electronic version for the Council's review and updating.
- The reception was advertised on Facebook and the Arlington List. The Community Input Survey was circulated in numerous places. Scott put it on our Facebook page and we had a box at the reception which collected just two responses. Becky will input these responses on our web page.
- Photos of Grant Recipients were to have been printed in Arlington Advocate. Margaret said that the photos had been submitted and many follow-up calls were placed in an attempt to have them included but, for some reason, they were not. Eliza said she has had similar difficulties. Scott suggested we also publicize on Bob Sprague's YourArlington site as well as on The Arlington Patch. Eliza mentioned that, following up on Sharon's idea of creating an electronic scrapbook, she has started a Picasa photo site on which we can include photographs of events, programs and grant recipients. It was agreed that it will be beneficial to have a slide show gallery of the work we do and support.

#### ITEM 6 Upcoming Events

- Report from the Subcommittee on Summit Planning (Stephanie, Scott and Wendy)  
The subcommittee met during the past month and agreed that the preferred time to host a summit would be early June. It was conceded that that is a busy time for many people with the end of the school year approaching, but they felt it was preferable to other options. The ACA has been approached about co-sponsoring the Summit and they are interested in doing so, and have agreed to provide space for the event and have provided some dates that would be convenient for them.  
There was a MOTION to authorize the subcommittee, on behalf of the Council, to proceed with the organization and planning of the Summit. The motion to authorize the subcommittee to proceed PASSED unanimously.
- In connection with Summit discussions, Becky suggested that once we are able to pull various art friendly groups in town together, that we might think about whether it would be appropriate to apply for cultural district designation. Stephanie and Eliza said that they had also discussed this idea. Eliza said that one of the things she might do is prepare a map that pinpoints all of our "assets"- the arts organizations, restaurants, nonprofits in town - so that it is easy to visualize where everything is located.  
Margaret Barrett left the meeting at 8:27 p.m.
- Town Day is scheduled to take place on September 15th (with a rain date of September 22nd). The deadline for reserving a table is July 1st, according to Stephanie. Eliza said that she would reserve a table. The Council decided to select a Town Day Coordinator at our next meeting.
- Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Submitted by Rebecca Holmes-Farley, Recording Secretary

Reserved rooms for the following upcoming meetings:

Mon. May 14, 4th Floor Conference Room, Robbins Lib., 7:30 p.m.  
 Mon. June 11, Community Safety Building, 2nd Floor, 7:30 p.m.  
 Mon. July 9th, 4th Floor Conference Room, Robbins Lib. 7:30 p.m.

